

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,330,499 to Chou et al. (Chou et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,748,318 to Jones (Jones). The Examiner also rejected claims 8-26 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Chou et al.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for granting and conducting an interview with Applicants' representative on April 19, 2005. The amendments to the claims and the remarks below are consistent with the topics discussed during the interview.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chou et al. in view of Jones for at least the reason that Chou et al. as modified by Jones fails to disclose every element of claims 1-7. For example, independent claim 1 includes, among other things, the step of defining a

testing procedure by selecting from a plurality of pre-defined owner inputs each associated with one or more diagnostic processes, wherein at least one of the owner inputs is associated with one or more diagnostic processes that are different from the one or more diagnostic processes with which at least one of the other owner inputs is associated;

Neither Chou et al. nor Jones disclose this limitation.

Applicants also respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 8-26 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Chou et al. for at least the reason that Chou et al. fail to disclose every element of claims 8-26. Chou et al. fail to disclose a system having all the claimed limitations including, for example

an owner input device configured to accept a plurality of different owner inputs, each associated with one or more diagnostic processes, wherein at least one of the owner inputs is associated with one or more diagnostic processes that are different from the one or more diagnostic processes

with which at least one of the other owner inputs is associated

as recited in independent claims 8, 17, and 23. Chou et al. also fail to disclose a method having all the claimed limitations, including, for example, the step of

defining at least one testing procedure by selecting from a plurality of owner inputs, each associated with one or more diagnostic processes to be associated with said machine data, wherein at least one of the owner inputs is associated with one or more diagnostic processes that are different from the one or more diagnostic processes with which at least one of the other owner inputs is associated

as recited by claim 14. Further, Chou et al. fail to disclose a method having all the claimed limitations, including, for example, the step of

analyzing one or more sets of machine data based on prior input by an owner selecting a testing procedure for generating said one or more sets of machine data, wherein the prior input includes defining a testing procedure by selecting from a plurality of pre-defined owner inputs each associated with one or more diagnostic processes, wherein at least one of the owner inputs is associated with one or more diagnostic processes that are different from the one or more diagnostic processes with which at least one of the other owner inputs is associated

as recited by claim 20.

New claim 27 has been added to more clearly define the scope of the claimed embodiment. Support for the subject matter in new claim 27 may be found in paragraph 29 of the specification. The prior art does not disclose a method having all the claimed limitations including, for example, the step of "determining a second testing procedure based on results of the first testing procedure," as recited by claim 27.

In the interview on April 19, 2005, the Examiner agreed that the rejections made in the Office Action were not proper and indicated that "the next office action will be non-final." In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and


reexamination of this application, withdrawal of the rejection based on Chou et al. and the rejection based on Chou et al. in view of Jones, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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